

GREAT HARWOOD.



Medical Officer's Report.



1911.



St. Hubert's Lodge,
Great Harwood,
12th February, 1912.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Great Harwood Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your perusal my Report on the health and sanitary condition of your District, along with the Returns of Births and Deaths for the Year ending December 31st, 1911, together with Local Government Board Forms 1, 2, 3, 4, and Form C for the Lancashire County Council.

Great Harwood is situate in a somewhat hilly district in North-East Lancashire, about five miles North-East of Blackburn, and is in the Darwen Parliamentary Division.

The principal industry is the manufacture of Cotton Goods, in which a large percentage of the inhabitants are engaged.

The following streams form the boundaries on three sides of the District: the River Hyndburn (which discharges into the River Calder) on the East side, the Dean Brook lies on the North side, and on the South side the Norden Brook.

Considering this is a Manufacturing District, these streams are comparatively free from pollution.

The land on which the town is built, slopes in a South-Easterly direction, and this allows a good share of the sun's rays, besides rendering great aid in its rapid and complete drainage.

The houses are of an up-to-date type, and constructively chiefly of stone and good bricks.

The District covers an area of 2,868 statute acres, and the population at the last census was 13,817. The rateable value is £55,023. In 1880 the population was 6,281, and the rateable value £18,014.

Within its boundaries the Dean Clough Reservoir is situated, the Owners of it being the Accrington District Gas and Water Board, and from this source the Town obtains its water supply.

This consists for the most part of upland surface water gathered from the surrounding hills.

The reservoir is situated well out of the Town and is protected from all sources of pollution.

The inhabitants of the District, as I have previously stated, are of a thrifty and industrious class, and are chiefly engaged (both male and female) in the Cotton Mills.

During the year 234 Births have been registered, viz.:—134 boys and 100 girls.

Taking the population at the last census, viz.:—13,817, this gives a yearly Birthrate of 16·9 per thousand of the inhabitants.

The Birthrate for 1910 was 19·14, and for the 10 previous years 23·4.

You will observe that the Birthrate is decreasing, and this year is the lowest on record.

During the same period the Deaths numbered 168, viz.:—85 males and 83 females. This gives an Annual Deathrate of 12·15 per 1,000 of the population.

12 of these deaths, however, occurred in Institutions outside your District, and two deaths have occurred in the Town of persons from other localities, and these have been transferred to their respective Districts—leaving 154 or 11·14 actually occurring in the Great Harwood District.

The Deathrate for 1910 was 10·5 per 1,000, and for the 10 previous years 12·8 per 1,000.

The ages at which death occurred were :—

Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	30
Between 1 and 2 years of age	...	...	...	8
" 2 " 5	"	...	...	5
" 5 " 15	"	...	...	8
" 15 " 25	"	...	...	15
" 25 " 45	"	...	...	21
" 45 " 65	"	...	...	37
over 65	"	...	...	44

Total deaths 168

The Deathrate of children under one year of age has been 128 per 1,000 of Births registered, against a Deathrate of 111·58 per 1,000 in 1910, and for the 10 previous years 130 per 1,000 Births registered.

The mortality of Children under five years of age was 43, or a Deathrate of 3·1 per 1,000 of the population, against 38 or 2·71 per 1,000 in 1910, and 37 or 2·64 per 1,000 in 1909.

The causes of Death in Children under one year of age were :—

Enteritis and Diarrhœa	...	...	6
Congenital Malformations	...	...	3
Premature Birth	...	...	4
Marasmus and Inanition	...	...	3
Meningitis	...	...	2
Diseases of Respiratory Organs	...	...	6
Convulsions	...	...	1
Peritonitis	...	...	2
Other Causes	...	...	3

Total ... 30

The practice still prevails of infants being carried out in the early hours of the morning to be nursed during the day, which renders them liable to take cold as well as subjecting them to artificial feeding.

The causes of Death at all ages were :—

Various Diseases of the Respiratory Organs...	30
Diseases of Heart	21
Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases ...	13
Various Cancerous Diseases...	9
Enteritis and Diarrhœa	10
Premature Birth	4
Meningitis	2
Bright's Disease	7
Cirrhosis of Liver	2
Cerebral Hemorrhage and Apoplexy ...	12
Hemiplegia	2
Senile Decay	9
Influenza	2
Enteric Fever...	2
Suicides	3
Accidents	1
Other Causes not necessary to particularise	39

Total Deaths ... 168

29 persons have died over 70 years of age, two of whom had reached the advanced age of 80, one 81, one 84, and one 87 respectively.

During the year the following cases of Zymotic Diseases have been notified to me, viz.:—

Scarlet Fever 21, Diphtheria 4, Erysipelas 8, Enteric Fever 3,
Total 36 cases.

From the above cases two Deaths only have occurred both from Enteric Fever, one within the District, and one at Blackburn Workhouse, who was a native of Great Harwood, and is consequently transferred to this District for classification.

The Deathrate for the year is '14 per 1000, against a Death-rate of '57 in 1910, and '78 in 1909.

It is very pleasing to learn that only 36 cases of Infectious Diseases have been notified during the year, against 48 in 1910, 76 in 1909, and 122 in 1908.

At the latter half of the year there has been a considerable number of cases of Whooping Cough in the District, and fortunately no deaths have occurred.

During the latter quarter of the year, the Notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis became compulsory, and four cases were notified during the month of December.

I may here observe, that all cases of this disease notified, will receive the same attention as other notifiable diseases.

On receipt of a notification, printed instructions are supplied respecting isolation, and the various methods adopted to prevent the spread of the disease.

A register of all cases notified will be kept containing the particulars requested by the Local Government Board.

As we have no Infectious Hospital, it is customary after an infectious case is notified, to visit the house, supply disinfectants, give verbal and printed instructions as to isolation and prevention of the spread of the disease, and if possible, trace the source of origin.

On recovery of the patient, the rooms are fumigated and the premises generally disinfected.

27 houses were so treated during the year.

The arrangements made with the Accrington Corporation are still in operation, whereby infected clothing, &c, can be conveyed and disinfected at the station belonging to that Authority.

The work in connection with the Scavenging and Nightsoil Department, under the superintendence of Mr. A. Eddleston, Inspector of Nuisances, has again been carried out very efficiently.

The crusade against unsuitable sanitary arrangements which has been going on for some time, is being considerably extended, and it is only a matter of time before the whole of the houses will be on the Water Carriage System.

During the year many sanitary improvements have been carried out, 40 old tanks have been abolished and the water carriage system substituted.

At two of the Mills the sanitary arrangements were considered unsatisfactory on account of the position and system, and new sanitary appliances have been provided out in the open air.

The Factories and Workshops have been inspected and I consider the sanitary conditions very satisfactory.

The Registered Lodging House in Delph Road (for men only) has been periodically visited and generally found in a satisfactory condition.

The Public Market has been frequently inspected but it has not been found necessary to deal with any food exposed for sale.

We have only two Slaughterhouses in the Town, a public one belonging to the Council, and the other one owned by the local Co-operative Industrial Society.

Both are under constant supervision both of myself and the Inspector of Nuisances.

The Butchers are of a respectable class and are very careful in the selection of cattle purchased for slaughter.

All the carcasses inspected were considered to be sound and of first-class quality.

The general sanitary condition of the Schools is satisfactory. Caretakers are supplied with disinfectants for the purpose of flushing the closets, drains, cleaning the floors, etc.

The Dairies and Cowsheds have been found on inspection to be kept in a cleanly state.

We have only one Milkshop in the Town, the quantity of milk sold being very small.

The milk retailed in the Township is particularly wholesome, free from adulteration, and kept under cleanly conditions.

The Tripe Boiling Works, which are the property of the Council, are frequently inspected, and are kept clean and sanitary.

Under the Housing and Town Planning Act the houses in the Town are being systematically inspected.

483 houses have been inspected during the year. Many defects were found, and notices have been served to have the defects remedied.

Six houses in the Rood have been closed, and demolition orders made.

During the year the following buildings have been erected, viz.:—A new Church in the Parish of St. John's, 54 Houses, four Shops, one Cotton Mill, one Workshop, and one Billiard Hall.

Several new streets have been formed, sewerred and paved, and some of the main streets repaved. Many sewers in the back streets have been relaid.

I consider the Deathrate comparatively low for a Manufacturing District, and will bear favourable comparison with other Manufacturing Districts.

In conclusion I have the pleasure to congratulate you on the satisfactory Sanitary condition of your District, and I earnestly thank you for the assistance and support you have given me during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN PATCHETT

Medical Officer of Health

Table I.

Vital Statistics of Whole of Great Harwood District during 1911 and previous years.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncor- rected Num- ber.	Nett						Under 1 Year of Age.		At All Ages.	
			Num- ber	Rate	Number	Rate	of Non- residents registered in the District	of Resi- dents not registered in the District	Num- ber	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Num- ber	Rate
1906	13,500		310	23	160	11.8		5	36	116.1	165	12
1907	13,500		307	25.7	163	12		9	32	104.2	172	12.7
1908	13,500		300	22.2	171	12.6		7	39	130	178	13.1
1909	14,000		297	21.2	138	9.8		11	33	77.1	149	10.6
1910	14,000		268	19.14	128	9.14		19	29	111.53	147	10.5
1911	13,817	233	234	16.9	156	11.29	2	12	30	128	168	12.15

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 2818.

Total population at all ages, 13,817	} At Census
Number of inhabited houses, 3,100	
Average number of persons per house, 4.4	

1911.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No.

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1911, in
Great Harwood District.

Notifiable Disease.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							
	At all Ages	AT AGES—YEARS.						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards.
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...	4		2	2				
Erysipelas	8			1		5	1	1
Scarlet Fever	21		2	18			1	
Typhus Fever								
Enteric Fever	3			3				
Relapsing Fever...								
Continued Fever...								
Puerperal Fever								
Plague								
Phthisis { Under Tuberculosis Regulations, 1908, Under Tuberculosis Regulations, 1911 Others	4				1	2	1	.
Totals	40		4	24	1	7	3	1

Isolation Hospital—Nil.

Table III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1911 in Great Harwood District.

Causes of Death	Nett Deaths at the Subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring Within or Without the District.									Total Deaths Whether of "Residents" or "Non- Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and up- wards	
Enteric Fever ...	2				1		1			2
Small Pox										
Measles										
Scarlet Fever ...										
Whooping Cough										
Diphtheria and Croup...										
Influenza	2					2				2
Erysipelas										
Cerebro-Spinal Fever...										
Diseases of Heart	21					4	2	9	6	21
Cerebral										
Hæmorrhage	12						2	4	6	12
and Apoplexy }										
Hemiplegia ..	2							2		2
Phthisis										
(Pulmonary	13		2		1	5	3	2		13
Tuberculosis)										
Tuberculous Meningitis...										
Other Tuber- culous Diseases										
Rheumatic Fever										
Cancer, malig- nant disease...	9							5	4	9
Bronchitis ...	13	2	1					5	5	13
Broncho- Pneumonia...	7	2	2			1	1	1		7
Pneumonia (all other forms)...	10	1		1		1	1	1	5	10
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs }										
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	10	6	1		1		1	1		10
Appendicitis and Typhlitis...										
Alcoholism										
Cirrhosis of Liver	2						2			2
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	7					1	1	3	2	7
Puerperal Fever.										
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition										
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Pre- mature Birth.. }	9	9								9
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide										
Suicides	3						2	1		3
Accidents	1			1						1
Senile Decay ...	9								9	9
Cancrum Oris ...	2				2					2
Other Defined Diseases...	34	10	2	3	3	1	5	3	7	34
Diseases ill-defi- ned or unknown										
	168	30	8	5	8	15	21	37	44	168

Great Harwood District.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year
of Age.

Nett Births in the year	{ Legitimate, 228.
	{ Illegitimate, 6.
Nett Deaths in the year of	{ Legitimate infants, 26.
	{ Illegitimate infants, 4.

[illegible]

Great Harwood Urban District.

PHTHISIS : SANATORIUM AND
HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

NIL.

February 12th, 1912.

GREAT HARWOOD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1911.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Inspector of Nuisances.

ALBERT EDDLESTON,

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
GREAT HARWOOD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
GENTLEMEN.

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1911.

Nuisances.

During the year 482 Nuisances have been dealt with and 38 preliminary notices have been issued calling for the abatement of the same. The remainder have been remedied by verbal requests.

The nuisances consisted of the following, viz.:—

- 415 Choked Water Closets and Drains.
- 9 Defective Slopwaste Pipes.
- 20 Broken Tippers belonging to Waste Water Closets
- 3 Overcrowding of Dwelling Houses.
- 1 Black Smoke from Motor Mill Chimney.
- 1 Animals kept so as to be a nuisance.
- 5 Accumulation of Refuse.
- 7 Dirty Closets and Closet Areas.
- 9 Choked Street Gullies.
- 12 Defective Ashbins and Pails.

Total 482

133 Legal Notices have been served to carry out the following Sanitary Works, which comprised of

- | No. | |
|-----|--|
| 60 | To Abolish existing Closet System and substitute Fresh or Waste Water Closets. |
| 52 | Provide Ashpit with proper Doors and Coverings. |
| 21 | Flag or Reflag Back Yard. |

Total 133

49 Notices have been complied with and the work in connection with the remainder is now in progress.

The Closets in connection with the following houses have been converted from the Old Tank System to the Waste Water Closet System.

No. 21 Clayton Street	1
Back Blackburn Road, James Street, Holgate { Street, and Commercial Road... }	30
Nos. 70 and 76, Queen Street	2
Nos. 11, 13, 15, 17, 54, 56, Mercer Street	6
No. 1, Edge End	1
Total	40

Closet Accommodation.

Below I give a statement of the Closet Accommodation in the Town.

Pail Closets (out Districts)	40
Earthenware Tanks	180
Fresh Water Closets	340
Waste Water Closets.....	2540
	<hr/>
	3100

It is the intention of the Council to abolish the Earthenware Tanks as early as circumstances will permit.

Infectious Diseases.

During the year 36 Cases of Infectious Disease have been notified, viz.: Scarlet Fever 21, Erysipelas 8, Enteric Fever 3, Diphtheria 4. Total 36.

Each case was investigated and particulars relating thereto were obtained, which were in due course reported to the Medical Officer of Health.

The drains and general surroundings were examined and any nuisances found dealt with immediately.

Disinfectants were supplied.

Verbal and printed instructions given as to isolation of patient, use of disinfectants, absence of children from School, etc.

After the patient had recovered the rooms, bedding, &c., were disinfected to the best advantage as circumstances would permit.

27 houses were so treated during the year.

Housing, Town Planning Act.

Under the Housing, Town Planning Act 1909, 483 houses have been inspected in the following streets: Hartley Street, Arthur Street, Maple Street, Thorn Street, Higher Water Street, Spring Street, Mount Street, Beech Street, Ash Street, Oak Street, Cliffe, Lowerfold, Cliffe Square, Park Lane, Church Street, Balfour Street, Rood, six houses in Lomax Square, and six at Edge End.

Defects were found in 73 houses which consisted of:— General dampness caused by defective slates, troughs, and downspouts, plaster off the walls, defective bedroom floors, defective staircases, uneven flags both inside the house and the back yard, a few fixed windows broken, stop waste pipes, and foul w. c. pipes.

18 Statutory Notices have been served and seven requests made to Owners of 53 houses (either verbal or by letter).

Many of the notices have been complied with, and it is chiefly on account of the inclemency of the weather that all the defects have not been remedied, and these are still under observation.

The houses numbered 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12, Rood, were found to be in such a state as to be unfit for human habitation, and they were consequently closed and a demolition order served.

Factories and Workshops.

The Factories and Workshops have been kept under supervision and the Sanitary conditions generally are in compliance with the laws relating thereto.

At Prospect Mill and Britannia Mill the Closets were situate inside the buildings and on a very old and unsatisfactory principle.

I am pleased to say that the Owners of both Mills have carried out the suggestions of the Council and provided water closets of a modern type away from the buildings out in the open air.

15 new closets have been fixed at the Britannia Mill and 12 at Prospect Mill.

The following is a detailed list of Factories and Workshops on the Register.

Cotton Weaving and Spinning Mills...	21
Clog Makers.....	12
Bakers and Confectioners	12
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.....	12
Tailors	4
Wheelwrights	2
Tripe Boilers	3
Plumbers	3
Blacksmiths	2
Harness Makers	1
Rag Sorters	1
Monumental Mason.....	1

Total... 74

Black Smoke Observations.

25 Smoke Observations of one hour's duration have been taken, but none were found to exceed the time limit of 10 minutes per hour.

Slaughterhouses.

The Slaughterhouses have been frequently visited.

After slaughter, offal is placed in galvanised iron receptacles and removed immediately by the Council's workmen.

No seizure of Unsound Food or food exposed for sale has been deemed to be necessary.

Lodging Houses.

The Model Lodging House (for men only) has been kept under observation and found to be kept in a satisfactory manner.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

The Farms as usual have received attention during the year, and the limewashing of Shippons, etc., attended to.

General Sanitary Matters.

The Urinals have been regularly cleansed and disinfectant fluid has been freely used.

Fish Refuse, etc., is collected from Greengrocers' shops five days per week between 7 and 8-30 a.m.

The Public Market has been regularly cleansed.

Scavenging and Nightsoil.

The Staff in the Scavenging and Nightsoil Department consists of eight Labourers and four Horsemen.

The majority of the receptacles of house refuse are built of brick and stone and provided with proper doors and coverings.

We have also 453 Ashbins and this system continues to grow and is appreciated, and I am convinced that this system is the most sanitary.

The only drawback appears to me to be that Owners do not realise that it is essential and the most economical to provide a well made ashbin. Many of the ashbins now being provided will not last more than two years.

The principal streets are swept two and three times weekly throughout the year and the bye-streets once.

We have 40 Pail Closets in the District and these are emptied weekly.

During the year the following loads of house refuse, etc., have been removed to the Council's Tip.

	Loads Removed.
Ashes and Gulley Refuse...	3087
Nightsoil.....	459
Street Sweepings	584
Shop Refuse	440
	<hr/>
	<u>4570</u>

1314 Loads of Water have been used for street watering purposes.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I have to thank you for the support you have given me in all sanitary matters during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ALBERT EDDLESTON,

Inspector of Nuisances.

